

KOOSEVELT AND BOYALTIES

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fleet; but I wish I could get legislation that
would give us
in the higher grades officers as young as
yours!

With great regard
Faithfully yours,

THEODORE BOOSEVELT.

To His Imperial Majesty
William II,
Emperor of Germany.

I have searched Boosevelt's papers in vain
for an answer
from the Kaiser to the following letter from
the President
urging him to favor a treaty of arbitration
between the
United States and Germany. If one was sent it
has been
mislaid:

*(Original in the President's
handwriting)*

May 6,

1908.

My dear Emperor William:

I have asked your Majesty's Ambassador to
present this
to you personally. I hope you can see your
way clear to
have your Government enter into a treaty of
arbitration
with the United States. In the form in which
the treaty
now is I freely admit that it is not as effective
as I could
wish. Nevertheless good will result from the
expression
of good-will implied in the treaty; and it would
have a cer-
tain binding effect upon the Senate, making it
morally
obligatory to accept any reasonable agreement
which might
subsequently be made. Moreover it would
confer a real
benefit in the event of any sudden flurry both
by providing
the executives of the two countries with an
excellent rea-
son for demanding cool consideration of any
question by

their respective peoples, and also by enabling them to make a strong appeal under the sanction of a solemn treaty to both the peoples and their legislatures to accept an honorable arbitration. It seems to me that these advantages are in themselves not to be overlooked; and furthermore the effect of such a treaty between Germany and the United States will be to furnish another evidence of the friend-